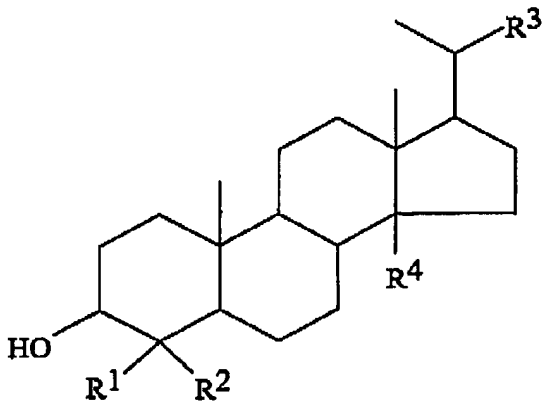
In the Claims:

Please amend claims 23, 29 and 30, without prejudice, and cancel claims 21, 22 and 27, without prejudice to the filing of one or more continuing applications directed to the subject matter thereof, as shown below in the following complete listing of all claims ever presented. This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of the claims in the instant application:

Claims 1-9 (Canceled)

Claim 10 (Previously presented): A process for the preparation of sterol phosphates, said process comprising:

(a) providing a sterol of the general formula (II), having a fused, four-ring steroidal nucleus;



(II)

wherein each of R^1, R^2 and R^4 independently represents a hydrogen atom or a methyl group and R^3 represents a linear or branched alk(en)yl group having from 1 to 15 carbon atoms, and wherein the fused, four-ring steroidal nucleus can contain one or more carbon-carbon double bonds; and

(b) reacting the sterol with polyphosphoric acid in a non-polar solvent.

Claim 11 (Previously presented): The process according to claim 10, further comprising at least partially hydrogenating the sterol prior to reacting the sterol with the polyphosphoric acid in the non-polar solvent.

Claim 12 (Previously presented): The process according to claim 10, further comprising completely hydrogenating the sterol prior to reacting the sterol with the polyphosphoric acid in the non-polar solvent.

Claim 13 (Previously presented): The process according to claim 10, wherein the reaction of the sterol with the polyphosphoric acid is carried out at a temperature of from 65°C to 95°C.

Claim 14 (Previously presented): The process according to claim 11, wherein the reaction of the sterol with the polyphosphoric acid is carried out at a temperature of from 65°C to 95°C.

Claim 15 (Previously presented): The process according to claim 10, wherein the sterol comprises a phytosterol.

Claim 16 (Previously presented): The process according to claim 11, wherein the sterol comprises a phytosterol.

Claim 17 (Previously presented): The process according to claim 10, wherein the sterol comprises a soy-derived sterol compound.

Claim 18 (Previously presented): The process according to claim 10, wherein the non-polar solvent comprises heptane.

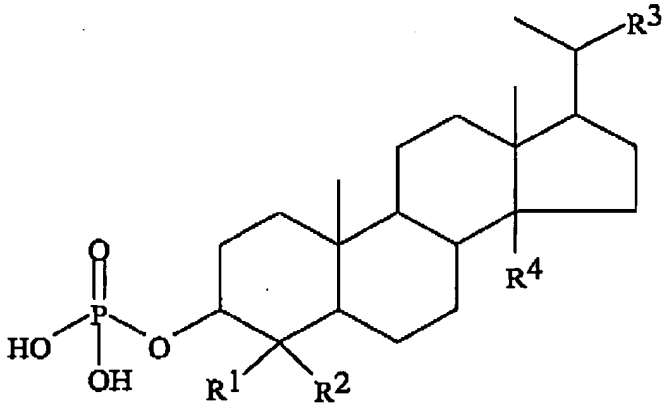
Claim 19 (Previously presented): The process according to claim 11, wherein the non-polar solvent comprises heptane.

Claim 20 (Previously presented): The process according to claim 10, wherein the reaction of the sterol with the polyphosphoric acid is carried out at a temperature of from 65°C to 95°C; wherein the sterol comprises a soy-derived sterol compound; and wherein the non-polar solvent comprises heptane.

Claim 21 **(Canceled).**

Claim 22 **(Canceled).**

Claim 23 **(Currently amended):** A cosmetic preparation comprising a phytosterol-derived sterol phosphate of the general formula (I), having a fused, four-ring steroidal nucleus; incorporated in a formulation base:



(I)

wherein each of R^1, R^2 and R^4 independently represents a hydrogen atom or a methyl group and R^3 represents a linear or branched alk(en)yl group having from 1 to 15 carbon atoms, and wherein the fused, four-ring steroidal nucleus can contain one or more carbon-carbon double bonds.

Claim 24 (Previously presented): The cosmetic preparation according to claim 23, wherein the sterol phosphate is present in an amount of from 0.1 to 1.0% by weight, based on the preparation.

Claim 25 (Previously presented): The cosmetic preparation according to claim 23, further comprising one or more deodorizing agents selected from the group consisting of aluminum chlorohydrates, esterase inhibitors, bactericidal agents, bacteriostatic agents, and mixtures thereof.

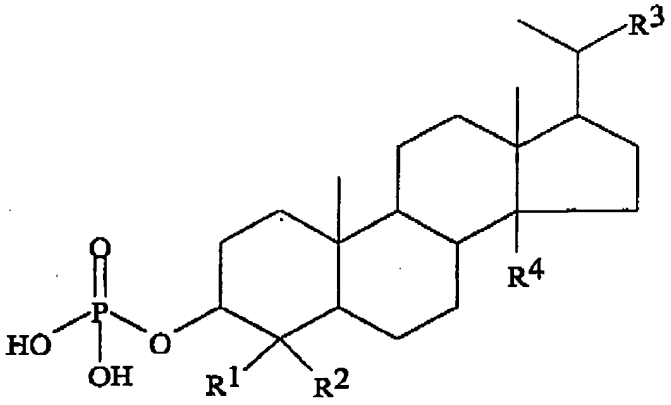
Claim 26 (Previously presented): The cosmetic preparation according to claim 23, further comprising an aluminum chlorohydrate, an esterase inhibitor and at least one bactericidal or bacteriostatic agent.

Claim 27 **(Canceled).**

Claim 28 (Previously presented): The cosmetic preparation according to claim 23, wherein the sterol phosphate comprises a soyasterol-derived sterol phosphate.

Claim 29 **(Currently amended)**: A method of deodorizing the human body, said method comprising:

(a) providing a cosmetic preparation comprising a formulation base and a phytosterol-derived sterol phosphate of the general formula (I), having a fused, four-ring steroidal nucleus:



(I)

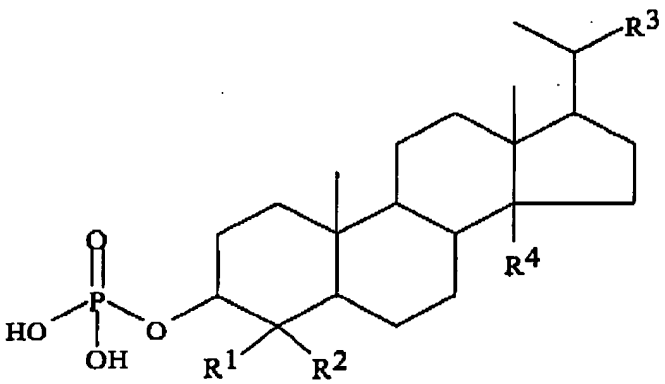
wherein each of R^1, R^2 and R^4 independently represents a hydrogen atom or a methyl group and R^3 represents a linear or branched alk(en)yl group having from 1 to 15 carbon atoms, and wherein the fused, four-ring steroidal nucleus can contain one or more carbon-carbon double bonds; and

(b) applying an odor-suppressing effective amount of the cosmetic preparation to an area of the body to be deodorized.

Claim 30 **(Currently amended)**: A method of enhancing deodorizing effects of a cosmetic preparation, said method comprising:

(a) providing a cosmetic preparation containing at least one deodorizing agent;

(b) providing a phytosterol-derived sterol phosphate of the general formula (I), having a fused, four-ring steroidal nucleus:



(I)

wherein each of R^1, R^2 and R^4 independently represents a hydrogen atom or a methyl group and R^3 represents a linear or branched alk(en)yl group having from 1 to 15 carbon atoms, and wherein the fused, four-ring steroidal nucleus can contain one or more carbon-carbon double bonds; and

(c) combining the cosmetic preparation and a deodorant-enhancing effective amount of the sterol phosphate.